NUMBER 10.

HER SISTER'S HONOR.

A Tale of English Life.

By Walter Besant.

APTER 1V.-Continued. ve told them, I suppose, that arried already."

ave not. I should tell them, if I could afford it. But I he old man has found out all

a. Ruth, I don't know how. bad sort, the old man; all he tit,' that's all." rew her breath quickly. On heek there showed a spot of

'he says, and you shall be a sep it on and you shall be a

the situation, Ruth"—he self into a chair with a lauda-ption of carlessness. "A beg-re is nothing in the world that I don't know any trade—I anything. There isn't a man id more helpless than I when to doing any work that will ou see, as I can't afford to be ad it would only make things rse if I made you a pauper, ade up my mind that the only us to do is to cut it; to have

ever met. cannot, Harry. It is too late such a thing." wer too late. That is my res-ath."

it-to separate-to go on as

Heavens! Why, we are mar-we you forgotten that?!"

not?" here, Ruth;" he threw himself air and tried to assume a fine elessness, as if the matter was relessness, as if the matter was
ery small importance. "So long
was any chance at all for us I
ling to go on. But there isn't.
be only cruel to you to keep up
any longer. I want to consult
erests first. I can't keep a wife,
I can't even keep myself.
w—don't fly out more than you
Ruth. Look here, you've got.

, Ruth. Look here, you've got of letters of mine; you can ourself infernally disagreeable lease. If you go into a court of would even get damages, I dare low look here. Don't let's have ndal. I'll buy the letters—I'll everything at a big price. Anyop prevent a row and to part

ared at him with a mind only

your letters? What do you Harry—husband"—she laid her n his arm as he sat up in the tell me what does this mean? r letters to your wife?"

-ah! well-of course, I don't to believe that you didn't see the trick. Where were you , pray?"
registry."
re is that registry?"

n't know. You took me there."

k you to an office; but, my child,
sham registry."

rned away his head. Cold and as he was, he could not face her id this infernal lie. false name. You are no more than your sister, Miss Ruth

ed himself to face her. at know, I don't know," she in fact knowing what she said, stopped and neither spoke.

ou mean all you say—all?" she

ean it all. Hang it. Ruth, nots you to come to any harm! I frankly that I will buy back all

forward and whispered. ang to his feet with an oath d across the room. When he to her his face was dogged ate, as it had been with his Inhappily, the girl would not with equal stubborness.

with brutality incredible. like. Only when you come over you will say that the you can do is to follow my live up all the papers and I'll brough—buy you a business, brough—buy you a business, abroad—anything you please." ber that this man up to this had been her passionate lover; would not find respect too great ip too complete. What did I ar of poverty reduced him in nent to this level. Again I say see one tremble lest through a ptation we, too—

in stared at him. It was as if the visor of the knightly helmet, moment before had been the man, there should be prinning features of a mocking ape. mean all this," she said again. surse, I mean it. What the devil

say it for unless I meant it?" y, you see, once begun must be even if one has had enough of declare that to this young man ollection of his father's flerce d of his awful threats drove pity, mory, honor—everything out of d. He had but one thought, to

of the mess.
have no pity? Consider—oh! I old you—consider—because you me only a week or two ago— oit, Ruth. If one of us two is be a pauper it shall not be me, help it. We've had a good time, over. You shall be taken care

help it. We've had a good time, over. You shall be taken care is all over, I tell you."

no. Oh!" She clasped her rith a cry of anguish. "It is only ing. Oh! it is beginning."
ank into the chair he had left ted her face in her hands. Then ang to her feet again as if there rest in her.

"Oh, my sister—Naomi!" "Oh, my sister!—how shall I tell her? What shall I say? What will she say? Oh, I would rather die than tell her!"

He was leaning against the mantel-shelf. He turned impatiently and took shelf. He turned impatiently and work up a little dagger paper-knife, one of those glittering toys the handle of which is of mother-o'-pearl and the blade of polished blue steel, and began to play with it, not even thinking of the toy.

"I thought you had more sense," he

"I thought you had more sense," he said, "than to go on like this. Well, you know now what I had to say. Better go quietly and think it over. Come, Ruth, it won't be so hard, after all. I tell you that you sall always have a friend in

that you shall always have a friend to me, and—"
"I cannot bear it. How can I tell her?
Oh, I wish I was dead! How can I tell her? I will kill myself." She wrung her hands, looking round the room as if for some help or comfort there.

"They all say that," said the man.
"But they don't do it, you know."
She pushed back her hair; then she tore off her bonnet and let it fall, as if the sight of it oppressed her. The wild look in her eyes and her white cheeks frightened the man—brute as he was.

"Come, Ruth," he said, "be more sen—"

"Come, Ruth," he said, "be more sensible. Consider—think a little. Let us part friends." He held out his hand as one who seeks to conciliate. In it was

the little dagger.

She snatched it from him. "No," she cried. "I will never tell Naomi. You may tell her—you. I will kill myself.
Yes—let me go—let me go. I will kill She fought with the strength of despair

while he tried to wrench the weapon from her hand. Then his—her—feet caught, and they fell upon the floor—he

When the girl's shricks called in the housekeeper from the next set of cham-bers, she was standing over Mr. Harry Stoke, who lay on his back—white in the face—lying in his blood. Upon her dress was blood; upon her hands was blood, and in her right hand the paper-knife which she had torn from the ribs of the wounded man was dripping blood.

CHAPTER V.

The case, which came on for trial a few weeks later was very briefly and imperfectly reported in the papers. The facts, as they appeared in the reports, facts, as they appeared in the reports, were neither sensational nor interesting. A certain Ruth Heron, aged 21, unmarried, was charged with stabbing and wounding with intent to murder one Henry Stoke. The prisoner was represented by counsel, but there was practically no defense, and the jury found their verdict without leaving the box. In passing sentence, the judge told the prisoner that only a providential interposition had prevented her from being charged with actual murder; he should sentence her to the term of seven years' penal servitude. term of seven years' penal servitude. unmoved, then left the dock.

As reported, the case looked like nothing more than a common street brawl among drunken and disorderly persons. There are thousands of un-



SHE WAS STANDING OVER MR. HARRY STOKE

married girls of 21 who go mad with drink every night, and assault the ruf-flans, their associates, though to stick a knife into a man is reckoned beyond the knife into a man is reckoned beyond the rules of the game. It was not stated where the assault took place, or what was the position of the wounded man, or the relations of these twain. Therefore the case occupied five lines, and no one paid the slightest heed to the terrible wreck and ruin of a life. That a girl of 21 should be locked up in a prison for seven long years, and at the end of that time should be separated from the virtuous by the memory of shome and virtuous by the memory of shame, and crime, and jail, is a thing that happens every day. Only another of our unhappy sisters come to grief. We are such a large family that we can not love all our sisters, can we?

In the city there were some persons who showed each other the paper, and whispered: "John Stoke's eldest son. Devilish unpleasant thing." A week later the matter was clean forgotten, later the matter was clean forgotten, save by the younger men who still remembered the romantic episode in the life of Harry Stoke, and still told the tale how he was knifed in a row, by a girl, and taken up for dead. Now, had the case been fully reported; had certain questions been asked, which should have been asked;—had I been upon the jury I would have asked these questions namely, why this girl called upon this young gentleman in his chambers on Sunday afternoon? what had been their relations? whether she brought that knife with her? what she said before the thing was done? and so forth; there might have been some sympathy for the girl; the jury—I know not—might have brought in a different yerdict, and there would have been a corresponding ver-dict, or an equivalent sentence passed upon the injured man by the world out-side the courts.

Let us add one or two details not re-

ported in the papers.

The case was taken after luncheon When the prisoner was placed in the dock, she lifted her veil and looked round the court with seeming curiosity. She was pale, but not trembling or confused, nor did she appear in the least afraid. If she had been a mere spectator she could not have been more unmoved. When she had looked steadily moved. When she had looked steadily at the Judge on the bench, the jury in their box, the clerk below, the counsel their box, the cierk below, the counsel in their wigs, she lowered her veil, folded her hands, and stood impassive. Being called upon to plead, she made no audible reply, but the official beside her leaned over her and informed the Court that the prisoner pleaded, "Not Guilty."

The principal witness was Henry Stoke. Considering all facts of the case, one might have expected him to be in a

Stoke. Considering all facts of the case, one might have expected him to be in a highly nervous and agitated condition of mind and body. It is always horrid to go into a witness box and give evidence, even when one has to give, so to speak, outside evidence. But it such a case as this, when one's motives may be so cruelly misinterpreted, and one's actions harshly judged, and when one may be asked the most disagreeable questions about things one weald willingly bury and forget, and when facts of a most atout things one wanld willingly bury and forget, and when facts of a most damaging kind may have to be admitted, to go into a witness box must be the most disagreeable thing in the world for a sensitive and candid soul. Only consider what the young man might have to confess! Yet he marched into the box upright and confident, his cheek a little flushed, without the least apparent nervousness. The reason of this was, I suppose, a little note which lay in his pocket. It contained these words:

words:
"My sister bids me tell you that she will give no account at all of what took place. She will have no question asked about her relation with you. What you say in your evidence shall go unquestioned.

NAOMI."

He went into the box, therefore, fortified by the knowledge that he could say anything he pleased. Let us be-lieve that he did really conceive himself to have been deliberately stabbed by the girl; he so well deserved that punishment that he had no doubt in his mind as to her having done it on purpose. He deposed simply that the girl had called upon him, that there had been an altercation, that the prisoner seized a small paper-knife with a steel blade, and that he remembered nothing more.

The counsel for the defense said he was instructed to ask him one question: Could not the wound have been inflicted

by accident?
Witness said that he could not say.
There were no other questions asked,



WITNESS SAID HE COULD NOT BAY.

and he left the box. Well, he had been stabled; he had been obliged to go into court and to state that fact. What good would it do to go into other matters?
People must not be stabbed even by
girls who have been deserted. Personally, he was horribly vexed about the
whole business, not to speak of the pain whole business, not to speak of the pain caused by the wound. But what could he do? He was very sorry for the girl, but it would not help him if all the story of his entanglement was proclaimed in open court. Observe that when a young gentleman like Mr. Harry Stoke behaves in this kind of way it is always an en-tanglement into which he has fallen, and, among his female relatives, the other party entangled is always the most crafty, the most subtle, the most designing, the most foreseeing, the most far-reaching she-devil that ever walked about with intent to entrap and destroy

the sons of women.

The next witness was the housekeeper at the chambers, who deposed that, being engaged in the adjoining room, she heard voices in dispute; that one of them was a woman's voice; that she heard a scuffle of feet and a heavy she heard a scuffle of feet and a heavy fall, followed by a woman's shriek; that she ran into the room and saw Mr. Stoke lying on the floor in a pool of blood, and the prisoner standing over him, the dagger dripping with blood in her hand, and that all she said was, "I have killed him! I have killed him!" Another witness was the medical man

Another witness was the medical man who had examined the wound. He said that he was called in about half-past seven that evening and found a man lying on the floor unconscious and bleeding from a wound, of which he proceeded to give a minute description, which caused the conduct of the assassin to seem very deliberate, and even scientific. Had the weapon passed an inch more to the right or to the left, or to the north or south, it must have gone through the heart, or severed the perithat he was called in about half-past cadiac artery, or pierced the vascular integument, or penetrated the femoral tissues, in which case death would have supervened. He said, however, that there was nothing to prevent the wound having been accidentally caused by a souffice and a fall.

The counsel for the defense dwelt strongly on this possibility. The wounded man, he said, had no recollection of any such scuffie; on the other hand, he had no recollection of the events at all after the girl had taken up the knife. He called on the jury to give the prisoner the benefit of the

The counsel for the Crown ridiculed

with a grievance, r. al or fancied—it was not for him to plead that grievance, and his learned brother had not thought proper to advance it. She waited for the wounded man on a Sunday afternoon when nobody was about—probably she reckned on being able to walk of she reckoned on being able to walk off unseen—and she attempted to murder him. Nothing could be more clear; she had made no defense; she refused to take advantage of the power to give evidence on her own behalf; she had nothing to say; her counsel would plead nothing but a possible—and very im-probable—accident.

With that the counsel sat down, and

the Judge summed up. He, too, had nothing to say in favor of the prisoner. It is difficult for a person to speak who refuses to speak, or to let others speak, for herself.

The jury, without leaving the box, found the prisoner guilty of stabbing.

During the trial, there was another sitting in the body of the court beside the solicitor for the prisoner. Another girl, evidently a friend of the prisoner, for she was in deep distress, and sat with her handkerchief to her eyes nearly all the time. But the prisoner ly all the time. But the prisoner showed no sign of any emotion. When the man whom she had stabbed went into the box she looked up curiously; after that she remained perfectly still; her head was bent, her hands were crossed, her eyes were raised; she recelved her sentence, and she walked out

ceived her sentence, and she walked out of the dock afterwards with the same apparent callousness. It was the other girl in the body of the court who, when the Judge concluded, shrieked aloud, and fell fainting on the floor.

Mr. Harry Stoke walked quickly away. This was the end of that romantic episode into which he had crammed all the passion of which his heart was capable, and all the treachery and villainy of which mankind at large is capalainy of which mankind at large is capable. Probably in his boyhood he had read of great monsters-men whose place is low down in those fearful rings of flame and boiling pitch and devilish tortures—of whose sufferings and punishments one reads with equanimity.
Well, he himself had become even as great a villain. That man's heart must be as hard as the nether millstone, who could thus send to a felon's prison the girl whom he had loved and betrayed, to whom he had normised so much and to whom he had promised so much and lied so foully. But he went away bravely, with quite a color in his cheek; a handsome young man, as some of the women in the court whispered to each other, and no doubt abominably treated by the wicked, impudent, designing, murderous wretch who had now re-ceived her reward, which richly she de-

The counsel for the defense walked across Fleet street to his chambers in the Temple, accompanied by a friend, briefless but without envy. "I was thinking, Jack—"he said, but

stopped.
"So was I," said Jack.

"So was I," said Jack.

"I was thinking——" he began again.

"That it is a beastly shame to lock up such a pretty girl for seven years."

"Yes, poor wretch. Why wouldn't the girl ask any questions? Why did she refuse any cross-examination? Why wouldn't she allow me to ask what the row was about? Did you see her face, Jack? It wasn't murder in that face, my friend, it was pride. She never my friend, it was pride. She never meant to stab him. The only question she would suffer me to ask revealed the truth—what had the fellow done? They say he's the son of a rich city man. He's a villain, Jack; he's a villain. And he's a cur. Jack: he's a cur. had the sweetest face. She let that fellow say what he pleased—she was too proud to defend herself. Oh, he's a vil-lain; he's a villain. Poor child! I hope they will be kind to her. But she's got to come out again, and her life is ru-

TO BE CONTINUED.

The Pen.

The earliest mode of writing was on bricks, tiles, oyster shells, stones, ivory, bark, and leaves of trees; and from the latter the term "leaves" of paper is probably derived. Copper and brass plates were very early in use, and a bill of feoffment on copper was some years since discovered in India, bearing the date one hundred years B. C. Leather was also used as well as wooden tablets. Then the papyrus came into vogue, and about the eighth century the papyrus was superseded by parchment. Paper, however, is of great antiquity, especially among the Chinese; but the first paper mill in England was built in 1588, by a German, at Dartford, in Kent county. Nevertheless, it was nearly a century and a half-in 1713-before Thomas Watkins, a stationer, brought papermaking to anything like perfection. The first approach to a pen was the stylus, a kind of iron bodkin, but the Romans forbade its use on account of its frequent and even fatal use in quarrels, and then it was made of bone. Subse-quently reeds, pointed and split like pens as in the present day, were used.

MAYORS AND COUNCILMEN

Will Hold a National Convention I Columbus, Ohio.

Columbus, Ohio, has been selected as the place for holding the national convention of mayors and councilmen, which will be held September 28 to October 1.

The programme of the convention will cover all topics of interest to city officials, such as street lighting, garb age, collection and disposition, street cleaning, franchise grants and revenues, paving, sewerage, water supply, police protection, etc.

I kissed her lightly on the cheek. Her face blazed up as I could see; I thought in scathing terms she'd speak— She turned the other cheek to me!

STOCKHOLDERS FOR HUNTSVILLE CONCERN MAKE APPLICATION.

THE COMPANY CLAIMS SOLVENCY.

Has Assets That Will Amount to More Than a Million Dollars-Receivership Would Affect Many People.

A bill asking for a receiver for the Southern Building and Loan association, of Huntsville, Ala., was filed in that city Wednesday morning. The bill is prepared by Glenn & Rountree and Lawrence R. Brooks, of Atlanta, Ga., and Marion W. Harris, of Macon.

The assets of the company thus put in the receiver's hands are more than one million dollars.

These attorneys for their clients ask that the receiver be appointed owing to the fact that the association is insolvent. They allege that their clients have made repeated demands upon the corporation for a withdrawal and that as the association has refused to grant them this privilege within the ime allowed by the law, they declare hemselves insolvent of their own

The parties who own stock in the company and who are the movants in the present action are J. D. Abel and Mrs. Mary Straton, of Macon, and Mrs. Mattie J. Lyon and L. D. Wilson, of Atlanta. These stockholders hold several thousand dollars worth of the stock of the association.

The Southern Building and Loan Association is one of the largest corporations of the kind in the United States, with assets considerably over \$1,000,000. It does business in eleven states and the present bill will practicably tie up this vast sum that is scattered in small amounts over these states.

The bill is known as a "stockholders" or administration bill" and purports to be filed in behalf of all the stockholders of the association. The cor-poration being insolvent, they say it is right that all the shareholders should be protected before the association becomes wholly defunct. It is alleged by the complainants that they bought the stock of the association with the understanding that at the end of six years it was to mature and they were to receive the principal and earnings.

The company was formed in 1889 and the prospectus of it at that time stated that for each thousand dollars' worth of stock the applicant wanted he could pay into the association \$7 per month for six years, at the end of which time the stock would have matured and the stockholders would own a thousand dollars' worth of the stock of the association, having made earnings to the amount of \$496.

large number of into the arrangement thinking that they could double their money in the six years. The bill continues, alleging that in the case of the present movants, at the end of six years they asked the association for their principal and earnings. They claim that the association replied that the stock had not metured, but they could withdraw the amount they had put in with 8 per cent for the average time.

Then a number filed their applications and were notified that they must wait their turn until reached, which, as they stated, would be from six to twelve months, as there were many applications ahead of them.

Judge Bruce, of the United States district court of the middle and northern district of Alabama, signed the rule nisi, and fixed the hearing of the case for the fall term of the court.

The effect of this receivership will extend over the entire south and the indications are that many bills of a similar character will be filed as soon as it is known that some one has taken the initiative. The association has loans to the amount of \$738,085 and with their other resources they amount, according to the statement of the association on June 30th; to \$1,004,943.

These extended over every manner of assets and are owned by several thousand people. The liabilities amount to the same. They have received a total return during the last twenty-four months of \$736,843.11, with a total profit for the last six months of \$41,036.74.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

A Number of Insolvent Banks Return Money to Depositors.

The comptroller of the currency at Washington has declared dividends in favor of the creditors of the following insolvent national banks:

Fifteen per cent, the First National bank, Tyler, Tex. Twelve and one-half per cent, the Merchants' National bank, Ocala, Fla.

Twenty per cent, the Citizens' Na-tional bank, SanAugelo, Tex. Twenty-five per cent, the Florence

bank, Florence, Ala. Five per cent, the American National bank, New Orleans. Ten per cent, the City National bank, Fort Worth, Ter

SOUTHERN PROGRESS.

New Industries Established In the South During the Past Week.

Business continues active and southern manufacturers and dealers report the volume of trade as being large for the season with most encouraging prospects for the fall and winter. A marked increase is noted in inquiries for machinery, indicating a large number of new plants under construction and enlargement of those already established.

Developments in the oil regions of the south are especially active, and, in the line of manufacture, cotton seed oil and lumber are attracting considerable attention, as evidenced by the increase in the number of oil and lumber mills reported during the past few weeks.

Iron and steel continues in good demand, favorable conditions in this industry in the south being most marked just now in the Birmingham district.

Mining troubles bid fair to reach an early settlement, and all indications point to a business year of unusual prosperity.

Among the most important new industries reported for the week are the following: The Peck City Coal and Fuel Co., capital \$10,000, Henrietta, Tex.; a cotton compress at Jackson, Tenn.; a roller flouring mill and grist mills at Laurens, S. C.; a 50-ton ice and cold storage plant at Charleston, S. C.; the Griffin & Barnes Machinery Co., capital \$10,000, Galveston, Tex., and the Last Chance Mining and Prospecting Co., capital \$50,000, Batesville, Ark. The Blue Ridge Oil and Development Co., capital \$400,000, has been chartered at Kingwood, W. Va., and the Central West Virginia Oil Co., maximum capital \$100,000 at New Martinsville, W. Va., and the Jackson Oil Co., at Ravenswood, W. Va. The Prosperity Cotton Oil and Fertilizer Co., capital \$15,000, has been incorporated at Prosperity, S. C., and oil mills will also be erected at Cross Hill, S. C., and Big Island, Va. The Eldorado Falls Cotton Mill Co., capital \$250,000, has been organized at Eldorado, N. C.; a \$15,000 knitting mill will be built at Athens, Ga.; a \$20,000 knitting fortunations of the contract furniture factory at New Orleans, La., a \$50,000 lumber mill at Bolinger, Ark., and other woodworking plants at Bagdad, Fla., Clarksville, Ga., and Logan, W. Va.—Tradesman (Chatta-

GOVERNMENT PLANT

nooga, Tenn.)

For the Manufacture of Armor Plate Being Considered By Committee.

The special naval board appointed by Acting Secretary Roosevelt for the purpose of preparing for the information of congress estimates of the cost of establishing and operating a government plant for the manufacture of armor plate met at the navy department at Washington Monday.

All the members were present. Before proceeding with the work of organization, the members of the board velt and had a long talk with him respecting the undertaking before them.

The acting secretary expressed his views as to the intention of congress, and the board was ready for work, after a room had been secured.

THIS MELON FOR BRYAN.

Fitzgerald Soldiers' Colony Sends the Nebraskan An Eighty-One Pounder.

The champion watermelon of the season, raised at Fitzgerald, Ga., in the old soldiers' colony, weighing eighty-one and one-half pounds, was sent off Monday morning addressed-

"William Jennings Bryan, the next president of the United States, Lincoln, Neb. Compliments of The Fitzgerald Leader." The crate in which the melon was shipped was beautifully painted in

silver aluminum with the following inscription: "From the old soldiers' (federal)

colony, Fitzgerald, Ga. "You shall not place upon the brow of labor a crown of thorns; you shall not crucify mankind upon a cross of gold.""

SAGASTA THE NEXT VICTIM.

Reported That Anarchists Have Scheduled His Death Before August 30.

A special cable dispatch received at London Monday from Madrid says the Spanish government was aware that a meeting of anarchists was held early in July at which it was decided to murder Senor Canovas del Castillo before August 15 and to assassinate Senor Sagasta before August 30.

DECIDED AGAINST PERRY.

The Georgia Supreme Court Refuses to Grant a Mandamus In His Case.

The Georgia supreme court Tuesday refused to grant a mandamus in behalf of H. S. Perry, charged with the mur-der of Beley Lanier, and this exhausts the possibility of relief in the courts. If the governor does not exercise clemency Perry will be hanged on the

The motion for a mandamus to compel Judge Candler to certify a bill of exceptions in Perry's case was made in the supreme court Monday afternoon by counsel for Perry and the court took the matter under advisement until Tuesday with result above